Ray Lawyers Seek Photos In Cell

Memphis (AP) — Attorneys for James Earl Ray, the man accused of murdering Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., are seeking permission from Judge W. Preston Battle Jr. to photograph Ray inside his death row cell.

The request, one of several motions in the Ray case on today's docket in Shelby County Criminal Court, said Ray has been offered $3,000 to $5,000 for a series of exclusive photos and that he needed the money to help pay for his defense.

The offer for the photographs reportedly came from Look magazine.

Another motion on the agenda was one asking that Ray be allowed to confer privately with William Bradford Huie, his biographer, who was in Memphis today appearing before the Shelby County grand jury.

Not Private

If granted, it would be the first meeting between Ray and Huie who have corresponded for several months. The motion added that the meeting would not be private if they had to shout through a metal and glass protective baffle seven inches thick—part of the security net which surrounds Ray's cell.

Huie already has received a 20,000-word-long hand manuscript Ray wrote in his top-security cell, and parts of it have been published in Look.

Huie said in the article that Ray was but a part of a conspiracy to kill the civil rights leader.

The grand jury ordered Huie to bring the manuscript plus any other memos or documents he may possess relating to the King killing with him when he appeared.

Ray is scheduled to go on trial here March 3. He is scheduled for another pretrial courtroom visit next Friday, however, when his attorney, Percy Foreman of Houston, is to make another progress report on whether the defense will be ready by the March 3 date.